

Claims

1. A method of monitoring and/or modulating disease-associated
activatory process comprising determining and/or influencing the
amount and/or activity of caspase-10 or caspase-10 isoforms in a
cell or an organism.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein the activatory processes are
triggered by receptor-crosslinking.
3. The method of claim 1 or 2, wherein the activatory processes are
triggered by non-apoptosis signals emanating from TNF receptor
family members, particularly from death receptors, including but not
limited to TRAIL-receptor 1 (DR4), TRAIL-receptor 2 (DR5), CD95
(APO-1, Fas), TNF-R1 (p55 TNF-R), TRAMP (DR3), DR6 or
combinations thereof.
4. The method of claims 1 to 3, wherein the activatory processes are
triggered by signals emanating from non-death receptor members of
the TNF receptor family and/or from death receptor members of the
TNF receptor family and/or members of the TLR receptor family.
5. The method of any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the disease is
selected from hyperproliferative, inflammatory and auto-immune
diseases.
6. The method of claim 5, wherein the disease is an inflammatory
disease selected from skin inflammatory diseases and septic shock.
7. The method of claim 5, wherein the disease is a hyperproliferative
disease selected from tumors.

8. The method of claim 5, wherein the disease is an auto-immune disease.
- 5 9. The method of any one of claims 1 to 8 comprising monitoring the presence, amount, localization and/or activity of caspase-10 or caspase-10 isoforms in a sample.
- 10 10. The method of claim 9, wherein caspase-10 or caspase-10 isoforms are determined on the nucleic acid level.
- 11 11. The method of claim 9, wherein caspase-10 or caspase-10 isoforms are determined on the protein level.
- 15 12. The method of any one of claims 1 to 8 comprising modulating the amount and/or activity of caspase-10 or caspase-10 isoforms in a cell or an organism.
- 20 13. The method of claim 12, wherein the amount and/or activity of caspase-10 or caspase-10 isoforms is modulated on the nucleic acid level.
- 25 14. The method of claim 12, wherein the amount and/or activity of caspase-10 or caspase-10 isoforms is modulated on the protein level.
- 30 15. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a modulator of the activity of caspase-10 or caspase-10 isoforms as an active ingredient and optionally pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, diluents and/or adjuvants.
16. A method of identifying and/or characterizing compounds for the modulation of disease-associated activatory processes comprising

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determining if a test compound is capable of influencing the activity of caspase-10 or caspase-10 isoforms.